

Acting Governor John Garamendi Signs Proclamation of State of Emergency for Santa Cruz County

DAVENPORT – Acting Governor John Garamendi today signed a proclamation of State of Emergency for Santa Cruz County. The Santa Cruz County Board of Supervisors requested the emergency proclamation which authorizes the California Emergency Management Agency (CalEMA) to provide financial relief for emergency actions and for the restoration of public facilities and infrastructure.

“A major fire disaster has engulfed Santa Cruz County, and they are in great need of resources to bolster what is being done at the local level to fight these fires,” said Lieutenant Governor Garamendi. “I have toured the damage and visited the operational center, and this fire is far from over. I will continue to closely monitor the situation and take all necessary actions to reduce the damage and keep residents out of harm’s way.”

Text of the emergency proclamation is below:

A PROCLAMATION OF A STATE OF EMERGENCY BY THE ACTING GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA

WHEREAS on August 12, 2009, a wildfire started in the County of Santa Cruz and continues to burn; and

WHEREAS the fire has already burned over 4,000 acres and is only five percent contained; and

WHEREAS the fire is threatening structures, forcing the mandatory evacuation of hundreds of homes and causing road closures in the area; and

WHEREAS on August 13, 2009 the Federal Emergency Management Agency granted a Fire Management Assistance Grant for this fire; and

WHEREAS on August 13, 2009 Santa Cruz County declared a local emergency due to the impacts of the fire; and

WHEREAS the circumstances of this wildfire, by reason of their magnitude, are or are likely to be beyond the control of the services, personnel, equipment and facilities of any single county, city and county, or city and require the combined forces of a mutual aid region or regions to combat; and

WHEREAS under the provisions of section 8558(b) of the California Government Code, I find that conditions of extreme peril to the safety of persons and property exist due to the wildfire in the county of Santa Cruz.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, JOHN GARAMENDI, Acting Governor of the State of California, in accordance with the authority vested in me by the state Constitution and statutes, including the California Emergency Services Act, and in particular, section 8625 of the California Government Code, HEREBY PROCLAIM A STATE OF EMERGENCY to exist within the county of Santa Cruz.

IT IS HEREBY ORDERED that all agencies of the state government utilize and employ state personnel, equipment and facilities for the performance of any and all activities consistent with the direction of the California Emergency Management Agency (CalEMA) and the State Emergency Plan, and that CalEMA provide local government assistance under the authority of the California Disaster Assistance Act.

I FURTHER DIRECT that as soon as hereafter possible, this proclamation be filed in the Office of the Secretary of State and that widespread publicity and notice be given of this proclamation.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Great Seal of the State

of California to be affixed this 14

th Day of August 2009.

JOHN GARAMENDI

Lieutenant Governor and

Acting Governor of California

ATTEST:

DEBRA BOWEN

Secretary of State

